the experience of the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands.

Judges of appellate courts in the American Union are smugly satisfied if they prepare fifty opinions a year and are highly elated if the number passes the hundred mark. But in the tropical near-equatorial seas, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands considered that year a failure which did not place one hundred and fifty opinions to his credit. The Court statistics, as of July i, 1935, disclose some interesting facts. The member of the Supreme Court with longest service was Mr. Justice E. Finley Johnson, who was appointed on July 14, 1903, and continued on the Court until his resignation on March 31, 1932, and who during these twenty-nine years wrote 3,673 opinions. Mr. Justice Florentino Torres had the next longest service of nineteen years, and was well known for his industry. There is an adage that a new broom sweeps clean, and it was proved to be correct in the case of Mr. Justice James A. Ostrand, who during his first year on the Court wrote no less than 362 opinions, thus setting a mark which it is not likely anyone will surpass. The merits and demerits of dissenting opinions have been much debated and have found active advocates on the Court, some members not being inclined to note their dissent, while others, like Mr. Justice Sherman Moreland, were extremely active in indicating non-conformity with the views of the majority through the media of dissenting opinions.

The policy under the American administration, except in the beginning and the close, was to retain a

majority of American judges on the Court. As originally organized the Supreme Court had six Filipino and three American members. But soon after when more permanently established the ratio was changed to four Americans to three Filipinos, and thereafter for years the American majority of one was continued.

During the administration of President Wilson an attempt was made to shift the balance to the Filipino side, but this